

# TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM LOUIS "BILL" DICKINSON

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to my friend, former Congressman William Louis "Bill" Dickinson, who recently passed away after an extended illness. He represented the Second District of Alabama as a Member of Congress from 1965 to 1993.

Bill was born in Opelika, AL, on June 25, 1925. After graduating from Opelika public schools, he enlisted in the Navy, serving from 1943 to 1946 and then joined the Air Force Reserves.

After graduating from the University of Alabama Law School, Bill returned to Opelika where he practiced law before becoming an Opelika city judge. He later served as a judge of the Lee County Juvenile Court, and as a judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Alabama.

In 1964, Bill was elected as a Republican to Congress for the Second District of Alabama. He was known to his colleagues on both sides of the aisle as an honest and collegial statesman and a first-rate legislator. The people of southeast Alabama were proud of Bill's work in representing them in Congress, as evidenced by his election to 14 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Bill never wavered from his conservative principles. It would be difficult to count the ways that Alabama and our Nation benefited from Bill's time in Congress. Though we did not serve together, I knew him well, campaigning for him when I was in college and benefiting from his strong support and wise advice since I have been in the Senate.

As a long standing member of the House Armed Services Committee, he worked arduously for our men and women in uniform. His work was decisive in supporting military bases in Alabama that have become strong, enduring installations like Maxwell Air Force Base and Fort Rucker. He was a fixture on the Armed Services Committee, serving 10 years as ranking member. Indeed, it was ironic that if he had chosen to seek another term, he would have been the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. As the committee's leading Republican, he gave his support to President Reagan's defense buildup in the 1980s which helped to bring down the Soviet Union. Our Nation's military continues to reap the benefits of programs and policies adopted under his watch.

There are times when our Nation has to defend itself and Bill Dickinson fully understood that reality. That knowledge made him a steadfast advocate for the proposition that the best way to peace was through strength.

Finally, despite all of his accomplishments, Bill's family and his many friends will miss his wit and humor. As we say in the South, he was "good company". People loved to hear him speak. The smiles on the faces of the audience would start even before he reached the podium. His humor and a realistic approach to life were surely great assets to his work.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara, four children, and grandchildren. They have all been superb citizens, and I am proud to say that his son, Bill, worked for me when I was attorney general doing a great job for the people of the State of Alabama.

Our State and our Nation are better places because of Bill Dickinson's leadership. Let his service be an example for those of us who continue to serve in public office.

## TRIBUTE TO SANDER LURIE

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a truly remarkable person. Sander Lurie came to my office as legislative director in 2001, and was an integral member of my staff for 7 years, including serving as my chief of staff.

Sander was pivotal in getting my office up and running as I made the transition from the U.S. House of Representatives to the U.S. Senate in 2001. I could not have asked for a better person to direct my legislative efforts; with his support I was able to hit the ground running and work for the great people of the State of Michigan from the very start.

Prior to joining my staff in 2001, Sander spent 10 years working for the honorable Senator from the State of New Jersey, Mr. FRANK LAUTENBERG, including serving as his chief of staff prior to Senator LAUTENBERG's retirement in 2000. When I asked Senator LAUTENBERG about Sander and his contributions to his office, Senator LAUTENBERG told me, "Sander was an integral part of my team for many years and played a large role in our successes during that time. He is a smart, natural leader with a real dedication to public service." I could not agree more. For the 7 years he spent on my staff no one was more tireless, more hard-working, or more dedicated to helping the citizens of Michigan and the citizens of the United States. He was a constant source of motivation and inspiration.

Sander has always been the kind of person whose first priority is to improve the lives of those around him. This was clearly evident during his time in Senator LAUTENBERG's office. He was instrumental in assisting Senator LAUTENBERG's push for major reforms in tobacco and was very helpful to the state attorneys general who took on the tobacco industry. Sander played a key role in the Senator's successful battle to reduce drunken driving deaths by making the .08 blood alcohol level the law of the land. Amidst all this, Sander was able to work with Senator LAUTENBERG and help craft the historic 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement that helped to produce the budget surpluses of the late 1990s.

As he made his way to my office, Sander used his experience with the balanced budget agreement to become the go-to person on my staff regarding the budget, and all of us here in the

Senate can attest to the complexity that comes along with it. Sander always prided himself in knowing the ins and outs of the budget process and he never ceased to amaze me with his ability to recall rules and regulations at will. His work and knowledge was a pivotal part of my ability to be a leader and contributor to the budget committee, and I cannot thank him enough.

Sander was born in Warwick, RI, and raised for most of his early life in Milwaukee, WI. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and following that he earned his master's degree in public administration from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas-Austin. Sander's priority of working for the people in his community and his commitment to public service began at a young age before he ever made his way to Washington. He spent time working for both the Wisconsin State Assembly and the Texas Employment Commission, making sure to give back to the States that he called home. This selflessness followed him to Washington as he spent the last 17 years of his life serving the citizens of Michigan and New Jersey.

Sander has now begun a new chapter in his life. And though everyone in my office and those that know him best were saddened to see him leave, we are all incredibly proud of the work he has done and are deeply grateful for the positive impact he has had on all of our lives.

Today, Sander resides in Washington, DC, with his wonderful wife Dorian Friedman, and their beautiful daughter Mara. As Sander continues on in what will certainly be an illustrious career, I wish him well. He is sorely missed, but I, and everyone around him, know that the same selflessness that brought him to public service will follow him to whatever path he chooses, and he will undoubtedly continue to improve the lives of those around him. I am honored to have had Sander serve as my chief of staff, and I wish him only the best in the years ahead.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BURLINGAME

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize the 100th anniversary of the city of Burlingame, located in San Mateo County, CA.

The city of Burlingame was incorporated into the State of California on June 6, 1908. This year, we celebrate its centennial anniversary. Also known as the "City of Trees" because of its 18,000 public trees, the city of Burlingame has fascinated and charmed visitors for decades.

Situated in eastern San Mateo County near San Francisco Bay, Burlingame is named after diplomat Anson Burlingame, the former U.S. Minister to